

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT



Complete if known

Application Number: 09/836,781

Filing Date: April 17, 2001

First Named Inventor: Whitman

Group Art Unit: 3721

Examiner Name: Tran, Louis B.

SHEET 1 OF 2

Attorney Docket Number: 3556-P03147USO

UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
ML		3,252,643	05/1966	Stekkopytov, et al.
/		5,314,436	05/24/1994	Wilk
/		5,395,033	3/07/1995	Byrne, et al
/		5,431,645	7/11/1995	Smith, et al
/		5433721	0718//1995	Hooven, et al.
/		5,529,235	6/25/1996	Boiarski, et al.
/		5,609,560	3/11/1997	Ichikawa, et al.
/		5,617,857	4/08/1997	Chader, et al.
/		5,653,374	08/05/1997	Young, et al.
/		5,661,517	09/16/1997	Hooven
/		5,662,259	09/1997	Yoon
/		5,662,259	9/02/1997	Yoon
/		5,779,130	07/14/1998	Alesi, et al.
/		5,868,760	02/19/1999	McGuckin, Jr.
/		5,954,259	09/21/1999	Viola, et al.
/		5,993,454	11/30/1999	Longo
/		6,059,719	5/09/2000	Yamanoto, et al.
/		6,068,627	5/30/2000	Drszucak, et al.
/		6,083,627	7/04/2000	Kenny, et al.
/		6,119,913	09/19/2000	Adams, et al.
/		6,264,087	07/24/2001	Whitman
/		6,315,184	11/13/2001	Whitman
/		6,434,507	8/13/2002	Clayton, et al.
/		6,443,973	09/03/2002	Whitman
ML		6,491,201	12/10/2002	Whitman

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE	<i>Michelle G.</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	<i>03/03/05</i>
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw a line through citation if citation not in conformance and reference not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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SHEET 2 OF 2		Attorney Docket Number: 3556-P03147USO

ML		6,517,565	2/11/2003	Whitman
ML		6,716,233	04/06/2004	Whitman

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT
ML		0,634,144	EP	07/14/1994	ETHICON, INC.
/		99/58076	WO	11/18/1999	
/		0,947,167	EP	3/29/1999	ETHICON, INC.
ML		00/72762	WO	12/07/2000	POWERMED, INC.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in Capital Letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE	<i>Michelle</i>	DATE CONSIDERED	03/03/05
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UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
ML		6,616,446	09/09/2003	Schmid

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

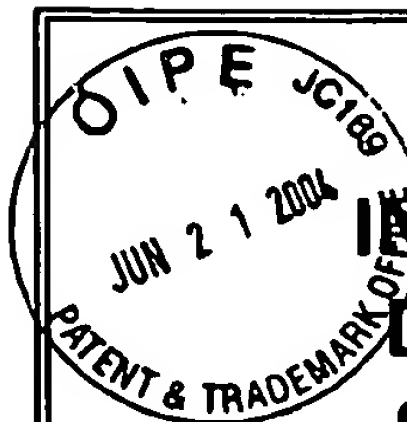
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in Capital Letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published

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UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
ML		6308089	10/23/2001	von der Ruhr, et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT
ML		659146	RU	04/30/1979	(w/English translation)

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS		
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